

Knowledge: *Categorizations: What we know, we know. What we know, we don't know. What we don't know, we know. And, what we don't know, we don't know.—Michael Darling, Canadian banking executive*

Workshop updates POD military mission

Story by Alexander Kufel

With the idea in mind that military action anywhere in the Pacific would involve engineering support to U.S. forces, 24 emergency planners from throughout POD and Pacific-based military commands assembled in Honolulu in early March for the purpose of updating and fortifying contingency plans. Anticipating this requirement is an ongoing process and periodic workshops help to ensure satisfactory responses, said HED emergency planner Thomas Brady. Thus, over a five-day period, workshop participants addressed Operations Plan (OPLAN) issues, discussing scenarios and working out plans of action.

POD Commander Col.(P) Carl A. Strock set the tone in opening remarks by telling participants that they should consider the words "When... then...." in their planning efforts instead of the more conjectural "If... then...." structure in order to place scenarios in proper perspective.

Brady said that with those words in mind, participants reviewed the status of existing OPLAN issues, summarized goals and objectives, and set about the task of developing scenarios that would permit them to examine various military missions and consequent Corps of Engineers requirements.

Early in the workshop, the issue of funding came up, said Brady. It became immediately evi-

dent that the best-laid plans would not be able to be implemented without proper financing and that nearly every participating organization was presently decrementing contingency funds. HQUSACE funding for POD is projected to dry up within the next five years. HED funding would disappear within three years. The FED emergency operations center is losing its funding. AED funding is currently non-existent, and JED will lose 85 percent of its funding. Funds for contingency construction contracting are expected to be provided by agencies other than the U.S. Army. The first plan to come out of the workshop became one of consolidating unfinanced fiscal requirements within the Division and submitting them to USACE by the beginning of July.

Other issues addressed by the workshop dealt with logistical matters, with ensuring adequate communications in event of full-bore armed conflict, and with updating procedures so that things happen in proper sequence in case of emergency. Planning continued despite the uncertainty of financing in the future.

"The plans have to be made for as long as contingencies need engineers," said Brady. "This is the kind of thing you wish would never happen, but when it does, then hopefully this kind of planning will make sure that the Corps of Engineers is in the right place at the right time."

Clinton names Assistant Secretary for Civil Works

WASHINGTON--On March 4 President Bill Clinton announced his intent to nominate Joseph W. Westphal to be the next Assistant Secretary of the Army for Civil Works at the Department of Defense.

The Assistant Secretary of the Army for Civil Works is responsible for overall supervision of the functions of the Department of the Army relating to civil works programs, including water resources development, environmental programs and policies, the Panama Canal, sea level canal affairs, and the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers.

Westphal, of Herndon, Va., is currently the Senior Policy Advisor to the Assistant Administrator for Water at the Environmental Protection

Agency. From 1995 to 1997, he was Director of the Congressional Sunbelt Caucus in the Senate, and from 1988 to 1995, he was Executive Director of the House Sunbelt Caucus.

From 1987 to 1988, he was a visiting scholar at the Institute for Water Resources, and from 1975 to 1987, he was a professor and department head in the Political Science Department at Oklahoma State University. He has also been an Adjunct Professor at Georgetown University since 1996.

Westphal received his B.A. from Adelphi University, his M.A. from Oklahoma State University, and his Ph.D. from the University of Missouri-Columbia, all in political science.